## Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method for preventing delivery of selected SMS messages, comprising the steps of:

receiving an SMS message destined for an end user;

determining that one or more telephone numbers are associated with the SMS message by searching in either a "short_message" parameter or a "callback_num" parameter associated with the SMS message;

comparing the one or more telephone numbers to a plurality of predetermined telephone numbers, and

selectively preventing delivery of the SMS message to the end user if any of the one or more telephone numbers associated with the SMS message matches any of the plurality of predefined telephone numbers in the list.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein the determining step further comprises the step of:

searching the "short_message" parameter text of the SMS message for a plurality of numbers having a predefined pattern.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step comprising the step of:

searching for the one or more telephone numbers in the text the "short_message" parameter of the SMS message; and

searching for the one or more telephone numbers in the "callback_num" parameter.

Claim 6 (previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the predefined pattern includes one of a group of 7 and 10 numbers.

Claim 7 (previously presented)    The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of predefined telephone numbers are stored in a list and wherein the list is periodically updated.

Claim 8 (previously presented)    The method of claim 1, wherein the preventing step includes deleting the SMS message.

Claim 9 (previously presented)    The method of claim 1, including the further step of sending a message to the originator of the SMS message informing the sender that the SMS message has been deleted

Claims 10-11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (currently amended)  A system for preventing delivery of SMS messages, comprising:

one or more network processing devices; and

a list of predefined telephone numbers;

the one or more network processing devices operative to:

receive data from a sending device, the received data including a message destined for an intended SMS receiving device, the data further being associated with a "short_message" parameter and a "callback_num" parameter;

extracting one or more telephone number from the received data either of the "short_message" parameter or the "callback_num" parameter;

comparing the extracted one or more telephone numbers to the list of predefined telephone numbers; and

selectively preventing delivery of the a message to the intended SMS receiving device if any of the one or more telephone numbers matches any of the telephone numbers in the list of predefined telephone numbers.

Claim 13 (previously presented)  The system of claim 12, wherein the one or more network processing devices comprises a short message service center (SMSC).

Claim 14 (previously presented)   The system of claim 12, wherein the one or more network processing devices comprises an SMSC and a database remote from the SMSC.